

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Saturday, November 3. 1751:

I Had purpos'd to have said no more to the Case, of giving the *Spanish* Monarchy to the Emperor of *Germany*; really I thought no Man could have Enter-tain'd a Thought so Destructive to the Peace of *Europe* at this Time; and I design'd to lay down the Discourse, because I would not thereby strengthen the Pretensions of those, who are for giving it to *France*, which to me is the same Thing, for I take them to be both Ruinous and Destructive.

But I am oblig'd to go on, because some Gentlemen who are of another Opinion, are for lessning the present Power of the House of *Austria*, in order to lessen our

Apprehensions of the Danger of adding the *Spanish* Power to it, and so to take off our Apprehensions of an Emperor over-balance-ing *Europe*—— The *Atlas Historique* is, it seems, pleas'd to bring all the Forces of the Emperor's Hereditary Countries to 90000 Men — And from this Calculate, Arguments are brought to prove, That the Emperor, tho' never so Ambitious, is not able to make himself Absolute in the Em-pire: I desire to differ calmly in Argu-ment only, and without any disrespect to Persons.

We must, in this Case, be allow'd to question the Authority of the *Atlas Hi-storique*,

Horique, and if we overthrow his Authority, which is the Foundation, all the Consequences which are inferr'd; fall on a heap to the Ground, as the Superstructure — I know no better Way to do this, than to bring Demonstration of Fact against a Supposititious Conjecture — And as to the Reputation of *Atlas Historique*, let them support it that think he is Right.

Three Periods of History will demonstrate the Fallacy of this Suggestion, viz. That the Emperor's Hereditary Countries can raise but 90000 Men — One of these was when United with *Spain*, and two after it.

When *Charles V.* was Emperor, he was Attack'd by *Solyman* the Magnificent, the Great Emperor of the *Turks*, who came down to the Gates of *Vienna*, the next Year after he had besieg'd it — He brought with him, an Army of 380000 Men — The Emperor drew up his Forces, and appear'd in Person ready to fight him — You have the Forces of the Imperial Army muster'd up, in *Knoles's Turkish History*; and again, in the Life of *Charles V.* and in several other Authentick Histories, which allow them to be the best Army of Christians, and the biggest that the World ever saw — And such an Army, that the Great *Turk* did not think fit to hazard a Battle with them, tho' two to one —

Mr. Knoles says in his *Turkish History*, fol. 417. there were 250000 Men in the Emperor's Army; *Stevens's History of Ch. V.* pag. 274. says the Emperor's particular Forces were 90000 Foot, and 30000 Horse, besides an Account he gives of 90000 *Italians* the *Marquis del Gasto* could not bring, because he wanted Money to pay them, or else he might have had them — There are some Objections to be remov'd, and some Observations to be added to this Account, which I must do, to prevent Cavils or Advantages being taken for want of it.

1. It is objected, that the *Pope*, the *Venetians*, and the Princes of the Empire, sent great Aids to the making this Appearance; and this is granted

the *Pope* sent 12000 Men, and the *Venetians* 6000, and the several Electors sent about 18000 Men, but the Protestants none — The King of *France* not a Man, nor the King of *England*.

2. That the Emperor brought 16000 *Spaniards* thither, which, with the *Italians*, at that Time, were accounted the best Troops in the Army; but it is to be noted, the *Italians*, being 30000, came not, for want of Money, as is said above, and the *Pope's* Troops went no farther than *Passau*.

Observations to be taken with you in this Case, are these.

1. That the Emperor was not then King of *Hungaria*, or Prince of *Transylvania*, or King of *Croatia*, or King of *Bohemia*, nor even Arch-Duke of *Austria*; at least, not of one of the *Austrias*; these were all possess'd by several Hands; *Ferdinand* pretended to *Hungaria*, *John Sepusius* was Vayvod of *Transylvania*, *Croatia* was much of it under the *Turks*, and *Ferdinand* was King of *Bohemia*.

2. Besides these Forces, the Emperor had, at that Time, 4 Armies on Foot in other Places, as by the History of those Times will appear, and an infinite Number of Garrisons full of Soldiers; he had an Army in *Flanders*, against the King of *France*, an Army in *Milan*, an Army in *Neples*, and an Army in *Africa*, not reckoning his Troops in *Spain* and other Parts of the Empire.

After this we find him Overcoming the Protestants, tho' their Army was above 50000 Men; and whose Power this *Atlas Historique* magnifies so much, and reducing them to the Brink of Ruin, only to be saved (as they were) by Miracle — As to the Danger of the Emperor's making himself Absolute in the Empire; I shall lay it down at large out of their own Histories.

I am, at present, upon the Power of the Emperor, and shall lay it you down impartially, as I go: The *Second Period* in History, wherein the formidable Power of the Emperor was visible, in the Time of *Ferdinand II.* when he had Overthrown the *Electer Palatine*, who we call'd King of *Bohemia*, at the Great Battle of *Prague*, had Overthrown the United Protestant Army, Commanded by the King of *Danemark*, near *Halberstadt*, and had brought the Protestants to Renounce the Conclusions of *Leipsick*— This is a long and a terrible Story— And if I do not make it appear, that the Emperor *Ferdinand II.* at the Time of the Siege or Leaguer of *Nurembergh*, altho' *Tilly* had been Overthrown at the Great Battle of *Leipsick*, by the King of *Sweden*; I say, if I do not make it appear, That the Emperor had in his Pay, at that Time, 300000 Men, tho' he had neither *Spain*, *Italy* or *Hungaria* to help him, and that if the Great *Gustavus Adolphus* had not Rescu'd *Germany* from him, by a Prodigy of Success, he had entirely Enslav'd the whole Empire; if I do not do this, I do nothing, and if I do, then I presume the Gentlemen will give up the Point, and acknowledge that History is against them, and that *Atlas Historique* is an Impostor.

However, because this is remote, and requires more Room than this Day's Paper can allow, I shall wave it a little, and take the *Third Period* of History to this purpose, which is our present Time— And pray Gentlemen, will you be pleas'd Critically to Enquire, What are the Forces which the Emperor (I mean without reckoning any of these Troops we call the Empire, or Circular Troops, Quota's, &c.) now has in his pay— The Imperial Army in *Hungary* has been in all our publick Accounts said to be 40000 Men, besides reckoning 8000 Men which are always kept in *Transylvania*— And these are also without reckoning the standing Garrisons of the Frontier Towns against the *Turks*, such as *Buda*, *Graz*, *Gross Waradin*, *Canisza*, *Raab*, *Peter Waradin*, *Darda*, *Alba*, and a Multitude of Towns which have German Garrisons, so

that by an Establishment which I have seen, those Garrisons came, after the first reducing the Forces, to 38710 Men, not including *Croatia*, which is all Garrison'd by themselves, or the Upper *Hungaria*, which was then in Rebellion, or the Army in the Field; so that the Emperor has not, these last 12 Years, paid less than 70000 Men in *Hungary* and *Transylvania* only.

We are next to Enquire, what Imperial Troops are Employ'd in the several Branches of the present War, which are more immediately Imperial, not Circular or by Quota, for Example.

1. The Army in *Naples*, where he has from the beginning, Employ'd 12000 Men, and fewer cannot keep that Country in Peace.
2. In *Catalonia*, besides *Palatines*, (which we are said to pay) there are a Body of 9500 Imperialists.
3. In *Piedmont*, besides *Prussians*, there are always in the Field 16000 Imperialists.
4. The *Dutchies* of *Milan* and *Mantua*, the Town and Territory of *Comacchio*, the *Electorate* of *Bavaria*, which are now in a Possession of Conquest, and are kept by strong Bodies of Imperial Troops, and cannot be kept otherwise, these together, have 18000 Men always Maintain'd among them.
5. The Imperial Troops in *Flanders*, are at least 14000, besides those which March'd away with *Prince Eugene*, and which added to 5 Imperial Regiments of Foot and 3 of Horse, which were on the *Rhine* before, makes the Emperor's Hereditary Force on the *Rhine* 22000 Men, including the *Wurtemberg* Troops in his Imperial Majesty's Pay.

All these are Troops, which we know are now in the Emperor's Pay, as his own Troops, besides all the Troops he Maintains in Garrisons, in all the Hereditary Dominions on the Frontiers, towards *Poland*, *Saxony*, *Bavaria*, and *Hungaria*, and in *Suz-*

bia on the Frontiers of *Switzerland*, so that the Emperor now actually pays above 200000 Men, besides the Troops of the Empire; and yet we reckon the Empire now, in a low, mean Exhausted State, and so no doubt it is.

If this is a Power fit to have an Addition of *Spain*, *Mexico*, and *Peru*, let any reasonable Person judge; and where such an Addition of Strength would End?—Those People who are for it, should leave the wild Notion of a *Balance of Power* out of their Discourse; for if this will not de-

stroy all *Balance of Power*, then I see no Danger in any Thing in the World.

B R R A T A.

I N Our last Review, the Reader is to observe an Error in History, occasion'd by the Word *bim*, in the Case of *John Huss* and *Jerome of Prague*—Which seems there to refer to the Emperor *Charles V.* but was long before his Time; wherefore the Reader is desir'd to Correct it thus;

PAGE 383. Col. 1. line 14. for *Uphraided him*, r. *Uphraided a former Emperor*.

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